



MITIGATED DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE

Description of proposal: Belle Timber Sale, Agreement No. 30-085025 and Forest Practices Application No. 2920326. This is a variable retention harvest of 60 acres in 3 units with a 0.5 acre hardwood conversion in Unit 4. There will be 3,375 feet of optional road construction and 3,297 feet of road abandonment.

Description of mitigation: The following mitigation measures will be implemented with this proposal:

- Riparian Management Zones (RMZ) averaging 172 feet wide on the type 3 stream and a minimum 100-foot RMZ along type 4 streams have been retained to protect water quality, provide corridors for wildlife, and maintain habitat for fish and amphibians.
- Wetland Management Zone (WMZ) with a minimum 100 foot buffer will be retained around the ≤ 1 acre forested wetland within Unit 3.
- Wildlife tree and snag recruitment will be accomplished by retaining a minimum of 8 trees per acre, consisting of conifer and hardwood species.
 - A large (8-acre) leave island was established in Unit 1 to protect special cliff habitat.
 - A large (5-acre) leave island was established in Unit 2 to further protect Type 4 and 5 riparian management zones and associated downstream riparian habitat and to augment wildlife travel corridors.
 - A 0.6 acre isolated leave island was established to the southeast of Unit 3 adjacent to the 100 foot no-cut WMZ in order to protect the functionality of the perennial initiation point and hydrologic function of a type 5 stream and associated forested wetland.

Proponent: Department of Natural Resources

Location of proposal: Sections 15 and 16, Township 04 North, Range 03 East, W.M., approximately 7 miles by road, northeast of Battleground, off the BG-3000 road systems in Clark County, Washington.

Lead agency: Department of Natural Resources

The lead agency for this proposal has determined that it does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c). This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public on request.

☐ There is no comment period for this Mitigated DNS.

☒ This MDNS is issued under 197-11-340(2); the lead agency will not act on this proposal for 14 days from December 15, 2009. Comments must be submitted by December 29, 2009.

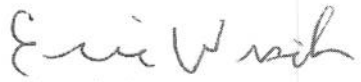
Responsible official: Eric Wisch

Position/title: Pacific Cascade Region Manager

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Date 12/15/09


Signature Eric Wisch

There is no agency SEPA appeal.